

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 627

BY REPRESENTATIVE JACKSON

COURTS/MAYORS: Provides relative to court costs in Mayor's Courts

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 33:441(A)(2) and (3) and Section 2 of Act No. 13 of the 2013
3 Regular Session of the Legislature and to enact R.S. 33:441(A)(4), relative to court
4 costs assessed by mayor's courts; to authorize an additional court cost to be assessed;
5 to provide that a portion of such costs shall support the local public defender's office;
6 to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 33:441(A)(2) and (3) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
9 33:441(A)(4) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §441. Mayor's court

11 A.

12 * * *

13 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the mayor
14 may impose additional court costs not to exceed twenty dollars for each offense, as
15 defined by ordinance or traffic violation, on any defendant convicted of a violation
16 of a municipal ordinance, provided that ten dollars of such additional court costs
17 collected shall be remitted to the local public defender's office.

18 ~~(2)~~(3) The mayor may suspend the execution in whole or in part of a fine or
19 imprisonment, or both, imposed for violation of a municipal ordinance and place the
20 defendant on unsupervised or supervised probation with such conditions as the
21 mayor may fix and, at any time during the probation, modify, add, or discharge. The
22 probation shall be for a period as the mayor shall specify up to one year. The mayor

Proposed law requires that \$10 of such additional court costs collected shall be remitted to the local public defenders office.

Present law (R.S. 33:447.11) provides for the collection of additional court cost fees for mayor's courts in DeQuincy, Iowa, Vinton and Westlake to be deposited in the 14th JDC's Indigent Defenders Fund. Provides for a termination date of Aug. 1, 2016.

Proposed law extends this present law termination date to Aug. 1, 2020.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 33:441(A)(2) and (3) and §2 of Act No. 13 of the 2013 R.S.; Adds R.S. 33:441(A)(4))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Judiciary to the original bill:

1. Authorizes, instead of requiring, mayor's courts to impose additional court costs not to exceed \$20 for each defense defined by ordinance or traffic violation for a municipal ordinance violation conviction.
2. Extends the effectiveness of a present law provision regarding the collection of additional court costs for mayor's courts in certain municipalities (R.S. 33:447.11) from Aug. 1, 2016, to Aug. 1, 2020.
3. Adds an emergency effective date.